

The

Grapevine

A publication of the City of Grapevine

April 2006

Understanding the Utility Fund



This is the fourth in a series of financial articles related to your tax dollars. If you have questions or suggestions for future articles, please contact Jennifer Hibbs at 817-410-3104 or jhibbs@ci.grapevine.tx.us.

The City's Utility Fund is an independent fund that is supported solely through the revenues from water and wastewater treatment for Grapevine consumers. Grapevine residents south of the Cottonbelt rail line are served with water and wastewater by the Trinity River Authority. Residents north of the rail line are served by the City's water and wastewater treatment plants on Lake Grapevine. The budget for the utility fund for fiscal year 2006 is almost \$20 million.

Your water bills fund not only water and wastewater treatment, but also the construction and maintenance of distribution and collections systems which

include water and wastewater lines, elevated water tanks and wastewater lift stations. The City is charged with meeting Environmental Protection Agency and Texas Commission for Environmental Quality regulations for water and wastewater.

In order to do this, the Grapevine Public Works

Department maintains 247 miles of water main lines, 210 miles of wastewater lines, 2,800 manholes, 2,075 fire hydrants, 2,900 water valves and 27 wastewater lift stations.

In spite of the size of the water and wastewater systems and the scope of maintenance work, Grapevine's water rates remain the lowest among our adjacent cities

Cost of First 2000 Gallons of Water in Area Cities

Grapevine	\$9.75
Colleyville	\$12.00
Euless	\$12.85
Flower Mound	\$14.62
Southlake	\$26.16

(see graph).

Also included on your residential water bill is a \$4 storm drainage utility fee that is assessed to provide improvements and maintenance of the storm drainage system. This year the City will spend over \$1.5 million generated by that fee on the regular maintenance of the underground storm drain lines, curb inlets, culverts, roadside ditches, clearing of bridge embankments and erosion control.

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The Vineyards Campground to Debut New Renovations



The Vineyards Campground on Lake Grapevine will reopen April 28 and debut its new renovated look including five new, fully furnished, climate controlled cabins, thirteen new RV sites, all new water, sewer and 20/30/50 electrical amp services, new courtesy docks, landscaping, signage

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Parks and Recreation News

Aquatic Season

Dove Pool

1509 Hood Lane
817-410-8140



Pleasant Glade Pool

1805 Hall Johnson , 817-410-8137

Hours:

Monday-Friday 12:00-5:00p.m. & 7:30-9:30p.m.

Saturday 10:00a.m.-7:00p.m.

Sunday 1:00-6:00p.m.

Pools open Sat., May 20 and Sun., May 21.

Regular season hours begin Sat., May 27.

Admission \$1.50

SPECIAL EVENTS AT THE POOLS

Memorial Day Madness

May 29 10:00a.m.-6:00p.m. \$1.50

Kick off the swim season with games, prizes,& fun! (both pools)

Bahama Blast at Dove Pool

June 17 7:30-9:30p.m. \$2.50

Enjoy your favorite island activities. Bring your grass skirt and drift off to an evening in paradise with Radio Disney.

Outdoor Kids Adventure Day

Sat., April 22 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Sun., April 23 9:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.

Meadowmere Park, FREE Family Fun!

Join the Texas Parks and Wildlife and the Grapevine Parks and Recreation for two days of adventure and fun on Lake Grapevine. Learn



new outdoor skills including fishing, kayaking, rock climbing, mountain biking, archery, and more! It's FREE and all equipment is provided.

Please call 817-410-3470 for more information.

Show off your outdoor skills on Saturday evening with our Family Campout. Join the Adventure Team as they provide dinner on Saturday night, smores, hot chocolate, a full breakfast Sunday morning, and plenty of fun activities for both kids and adults. Register at www.AdventureTeamKids.com or contact Jennifer Marlow at 972-741-9169.

Fee: Adults \$25/Kids \$15
(Children 3 yrs. and under FREE)

Adult Activities

Summer Ultimate Frisbee

Registration: May 6-27

League dates: June 14-Aug. 9

Fee: \$115/team



Summer Adult Basketball

Registration: June 18-July 3

League Dates: July 10-Aug. 24

Fee: \$300/team

Summer Adult Softball

Registration:

April 23-May 8

League Dates:

May 14-July 30

Fee: \$170-\$230 per team



Youth Activities

Summer Youth Volleyball

Registration: May 27-June 16

Season Dates: July 8-Aug. 12

Fees: \$45/resident ind. & \$55/non-resident ind.
and \$195/resident team
& \$215/non-resident team

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...Parks and Rec, cont. from page 2

Youth Summer Camps

British Soccer Camps

Dates: June 5-9 & July 10-14

Location: Parr Park

Fees: \$77 Ages: 4-5

Fees: \$100 Ages: 6-14

University of Dallas Basketball Camp

Dates: June 5-9

Location: Grapevine Middle School

Fees: \$90

Integrity Sports Girl's Basketball Camp

Dates: June 19-22

Location: Community Activities Center

Fees: \$65

For adult or youth activities, call
817-410-3450.

Grapevine Senior Activities Center

Did you know...?

Did you know the Grapevine Senior Activities Center (SAC) has an in-house library? Inventory includes paperback books, books on audiotape, large print and hardbound books. Any GSAC member can take a book home on the honor system and return it when they have completed it. Book donations are always appreciated.

Did you know the Grapevine Senior Activities Center has a chorus? The Great Day Chorus meets every Thursday at 10:30 a.m. for an hour of rehearsal and fun. Periodically they perform at a variety of venues. If you enjoy singing, you would enjoy participating in this boisterous fun-loving vocal group.

Did you know the Grapevine Senior Activities Center has a SeniorMovers program that connects volunteer drivers with Grapevine seniors needing assistance with transportation to medical and dental appointments? If you are able to volunteer for this program, please call 817-410-8130.

Water Conservation – Growing Concern



The lack of rainfall continues to be a growing concern of water producers in the North Texas area.

Grapevine residents receive about 70 percent of their drinking water from the Trinity River Authority (TRA), which is supplied by Cedar Creek Lake, Richland Chambers Lake and approximately 30 percent from the city's water supply (Lake Grapevine). Lake Grapevine's normal conservation pool elevation is between 530-535 feet. The current level in Lake Grapevine is 539 feet.

Irrigation accounts for the largest domestic use of water. Deep infrequent watering is recommended to provide your landscape with the water it needs and in turn will save water over the long run. The public is also requested to reduce or eliminate outdoor watering between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Automatic sprinkler systems should be reset to operate on a five-day cycle, applying one inch of water (see schedule). One way to calculate the amount of time needed to irrigate your yard is to place a square pan in the yard, turn the sprinkler system on and calculate the amount of time it takes to fill the pan to one inch. Your irrigation system can then be reset to that amount of time.

Water conservation tip, don't irrigate to the point where water runs off the landscape. Below is a recommended five-day watering schedule. However, irrigation systems can accommodate watering intervals less frequent than every five days (i.e. six or seven day intervals).

Last Digit of Address

0 and 5

1 and 6

2 and 7

3 and 8

4 and 9

Watering Dates

5th, 10th, 15th, 20th, 25th 30th

1st, 6th, 11th, 16th, 21st, 26th

2nd, 7th, 12th, 17th, 22nd, 27th

3rd, 8th, 13th, 18th, 23rd, 28th

4th, 9th, 14th, 19th, 24th, 29th

For more information, call 817-410-3333.

**Celebrate Earth Day's
36th Anniversary on
April 22nd**

City Boards and Commissions

Applications are now being accepted for City Board and Commission vacancies. Complete information about the function of each board or commission and applications are available on the City's website (www.ci.grapevine.tx.us) as well as at the City Secretary's Office located at 200 South Main Street and the Grapevine Library, 1201 Municipal Way.

Applications must be submitted to the City Secretary by April 21, 2006. For more information, call 817-410-3182 or fax 817-410-3004. A separate application form should be completed for each board for which you wish to be considered. Listed above is each advisory board and the number of vacancies.

BOARD OF ZONING ADJUSTMENTS: Four vacancies
 BUILDING BOARD OF APPEALS: Three vacancies
 CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU ADVISORY BOARD: Four vacancies
 GOLF COURSE ADVISORY BOARD: Five vacancies
 GRAPEVINE HEALTH OFFICER: One vacancy
 GRAPEVINE HERITAGE FOUNDATION: Six vacancies
 HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION: Four vacancies
 HOUSING AUTHORITY ADVISORY BOARD: Two vacancies
 LIBRARY BOARD: Four vacancies
 METROPORT TEEN COURT ADVISORY BOARD: Two vacancies
 PARKS & RECREATION BOARD: Four vacancies
 PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION: Five vacancies
 SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD: Three vacancies

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and leveled sites. Located at 1501 N. Dooley Street, the Vineyards Campground offers a natural beauty that comes from the wooded areas and unique waterfront sites! Citizens are invited to attend The Vineyards Open House, scheduled for April 23, from 12:00p.m. to 5:00p.m.

Attendees will have the opportunity to view various modes of camping such as RVs, travel trailers, pop-up campers, cabins, and tents. Visitors can register for free night stays, cabin rentals and pavilion rentals. Grapevine residents, as always, will receive a discount off of full rental costs. The official opening of The Vineyards is scheduled for April 28 at 2:00p.m.

The campground is nestled among many outstanding destination venues such as Historic Downtown Grapevine, The Gaylord Texan, Grapevine Mills Mall, and Bass Pro Outdoor World. The surrounding area is perfect for hosting out-of-town visitors, exploring trails, shopping, golfing and many family oriented, fun activities! Reservations are now



being accepted at 817-329-8993 or by visiting www.vineyardscampground.com.

The Vineyards Campground also offers many other amenities such as pull throughs, boat ramp, fishing pier, neighboring trails, playground, sand volleyball court and much more. For more information on this fabulous campground, please visit us at www.vineyardscampground.com.

As a reminder, annual boat ramp passes are also available for purchase at the campground office, 1501 N. Dooley Street.

Programs and Clinics at the Grapevine Golf Course

Junior Golf Activities for 2006

Beginning in June, there will be free Junior Play Days on Tuesdays beginning at 6:30a.m. for all Junior golfers between the ages of 7 - 17.

The dates for the Free Junior Play days are June 6, 13, 20, 27 and July 11 & 18, 2006.

Juniors can make their tee times beginning on the Wednesday prior to the day of play. Tee times will run from 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Golfers will need to check in 20 minutes prior to their tee time.



On July 25, 2006 the Junior Club Championship will be held. The entry fee is \$10.00. Fee will need to accompany the entry form. You may pick up a form in the Pro Shop.

Junior Clinics

FREE Clinic

May 16-17,
5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., ages 8-17
Involves rules, etiquette,
basic instruction and some practice
on the driving range.

Chipping, putting, and practice on the driving range

Cost - \$99.00 per session

June 14-16, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., ages 8-12

June 21-23, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., ages 13-17

July 12-14, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., ages 8-12

July 19-21, 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., ages 13-17

Adult Golf Activities for 2006

Adult Clinics

Cost - \$125.00 per session

May 10-12, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

July 5-7, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Ladies Clinics

Cost - \$125.00 per session

June 7-9, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Adult Short Game Clinics

Cost - \$99.00 per session

Short Game – Putting - April 22-23,
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. (Max. 10 students)

Short Game – Pitching – May 20-21,
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. (Max. 10 students)

Short Game – Bunker Play – June 10-11,
4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m. (Max. 10 students)

Short Game – Putting and Chipping –
July 22-23, 4:00p.m.-6:00 p.m.
(Max. 10 students)

Grapevine Market Opens for Second Season

Join us in Historic Downtown Grapevine for the second season of Grapevine Market, an open-air European-style shopping experience. Grapevine Market features handmade jewelry, fine art, distinctive home décor, quality antiques, pet accessories, and a whole lot more.

The market runs weekly from mid-March to mid-November on Thursdays and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Grapevine Market is held on Main Street around City Hall, in Liberty Park Plaza and at the Gazebo, all located in the heart of Grapevine's Downtown Historic District.

Following the market, experience the multitude of unique specialty shops, galleries, boutiques, restaurants and wineries located throughout Grapevine and the Historic District. For details about the Market, contact us at 817-410-3185 or visit us online at www.grapevinetexasusa.com.

Library News

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

APRIL

- 20 7:00 p.m. Make & Take Crafts
29 3:00 p.m. Write to be Heard with Will Richey

MAY

- 18 7:00 p.m. Storyteller Genie Hammel

"Write to be Heard" with Will Richey

Saturday, April 29th at 3:00 p.m., Spoken Word Artist Will Richey will present a writing and performing workshop for teens (6th grade and up). Spaces are limited, so please call 817-410-3405 to register.

SUMMER READING CLUB 2006

Reading: The Sport of Champions

Summer Reading Club sign-up begins Tuesday, May 30th! This year you'll have the chance to earn a ticket to an exciting event that will take place on July 9th, so sign-up at the beginning of summer and finish early this year to participate!



Summer Reading Club Program Dates

(must be ages 5 and up, must show library card, must be able to attend without an adult)

MAY

- 31 2:00 p.m. Zooniversity

JUNE

- 7 2:00 p.m. Outback Ben's Wild Reading Review
14 2:00 p.m. Flying Balloon Science Show
21 2:00 p.m. Boopsie: Fun, Fitness, & Olympic Spirit
28 2:00 p.m. Adventures in Juggling

ADULT PROGRAMS

APRIL

- 16 Library closed for Easter
20 6:45 p.m. Quilt Chat
24 7:00 p.m. Grapevine Historical Society
29 10:00 a.m. Family Tree Maker



MAY

- 2 7:00 p.m. Keep Grapevine Beautiful
8 10:00 a.m. Name Droppers
9 7:00 p.m. Vision Andina
11 7:00 p.m. Page Turners: Sweetwater Creek
13 10:00 a.m. DFW Machine Knitting Guild
18 6:45 p.m. Quilt Chat
29 Library closed for Memorial Day

JUNE

- 6 7:00 p.m. Gardening
6 9:00 a.m. Safe Sitter
8 9:00 a.m. Safe Sitter
8 7:00 p.m. Page Turners: Memoirs of a Geisha
10 10:00 a.m. DFW Machine Knitting Guild

Grapevine Public Library Part of Northeast Tarrant Reads

Grapevine Public Library is one of ten public libraries in Northeast Tarrant County cooperating in a one book, one community reading program.

The program will center around Erik Larson's *Isaac's Storm*, an account of the 1900 hurricane that killed more people than any other hurricane in Texas history. Some have estimated that as many as 6,000 people were killed in the Galveston area when the storm swept over the bustling seaport.

The program will begin on June 5 and culminate on July 20 with a presentation by Lew Frasier, noted Texas historian and hurricane watcher.

Other libraries participating include Bedford, Colleyville, Euless, Haltom City, Hurst, Keller, North Richland Hills, Richland Hills, Southlake and Watauga. Each library will provide special events coordinated

around the book *Isaac's Storm*.

Grapevine's book discussion group, Page Turners, will discuss the book on July 13. There will be other events at the Grapevine Public Library as well. These events will be announced as they are finalized.

Friends of Grapevine Library Provides New Services for Library Users

The Friends of the Grapevine Library have granted nearly \$12,000 to the library to pay for new services and programs.

The library now has available downloadable audio books. There are over 800 adult and 250 children's titles in the new collection. Patrons can download and play the audio books on any device which supports Windows Media format. Books will be active for three weeks after download, giving the listener plenty of time to listen to the book.

Homework assistance is now available through tutor.com. Tutor.com provides live online help to those in grades 4 through 12 in the subjects of english, math,



social studies and science. Certified teachers, college professors and graduate students provide the help needed through live online chat. The service will be available after school and in the evening.

Additional information about the downloadable audio books and online homework help is available at the Grapevine Public Library.

The Friends of the Grapevine Public Library are happy to enhance the quality of the services at Grapevine Public Library.

Vision Andina

Vision Andina with Jacco Velarde will present a one hour program of South American Music at Grapevine Public Library on Tuesday, May 9th at 7:00 p.m. Begun in 1982 by Bolivian born Jacco Velarde, Vision Andina is an ensemble of master musicians from the high Andes that brings the magic of traditional instrumentation to the various rhythms of folk and contemporary music of all Andean countries including Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Chile and Argentina. Thanks to the Friends of the Library for funding this and many other culturally enriching events!

City Council Election

A

re you a registered voter? To vote in any election, you must be registered with the Tarrant County Elections Administration 30 days prior to any election. The Grapevine City Officer Election is May 13, 2006, so you must be registered by April 13 to be eligible to cast your ballot.

The City is conducting a joint election with Tarrant County, therefore, you may also early vote at any of Tarrant County's early voting locations. Please visit www.tarrantcounty.com/evote for additional early voting locations.

You may register to vote, change your address, or inquire to see if you are registered by calling the Tarrant County Elections Administration 817-884-1115, or visit the www.tarrantcounty.com/elections web site. Voter registration cards are also available at the Grapevine Library or at City Hall.

The early voting schedule for the polls at the Grapevine Community Activities Center, 1175 Municipal Way, are as follows.

May 1 – May 5	8 a.m. – 5 p.m.	Monday – Friday
May 6	7 a.m. – 7 p.m.	Saturday
May 7	11 a.m. – 4 p.m.	Sunday
May 8 – May 9	7 a.m. – 7 p.m.	Monday – Tuesday
May 13 (Election Day)	7 a.m. – 7 p.m.	Saturday

Early voting will also be available at county precincts listed at www.tarrantcounty.com/evote.

22nd Annual Main Street Days Festival – An Outdoor Adventure Awaits You!



here's no telling how high the temperature will rise during the month of May in Texas. But one thing is for certain, Grapevine will be the coolest place in the state, at least during the third weekend in May. The forecast is calling for a 100 percent chance of SNOW in Grapevine during the 22nd Annual Main Street Days Festival on May 19, 20, & 21, 2006.

Festival guests will have the chance to watch and/or participate in a snow tubing hill and snow play area, scuba diving (demonstrations and participation), BMX stunts (demonstrations), rock climbing (demonstrations and participation), frisbee golf (demonstrations and

participation), and a whole lot more. Grapevine is the perfect spot for active lifestyles and outdoor enthusiasts, and the 22nd Annual Main Street Days will showcase Grapevine's adventurous side and natural

resources through various outdoor and recreational activities.

Mark your calendars now for the 22nd Annual Main Street Days on May 19, 20, & 21, 2006! This year's festival includes extended hours and many new and exciting activities. Main Street Days will open at 10:00 a.m. on May 19, and as an added bonus, admission is free to everyone until



5:00 p.m. on Friday!

Traditional Main Street Days fun will delight all festival guests throughout the weekend including the thrilling handcar races, gunfighters, and non-stop entertainment on six stages featuring a variety of music

from rock and R&B to bluegrass and country. Enjoy arts and crafts, thrilling carnival rides, and short sampler runs on the Grapevine Vintage Railroad. Volunteer opportunities for Main Street Days are still available. For more information visit www.grapevinetexasusa.com or call 817-410-3185.

**MAIN STREET
DAYS FESTIVAL
May 19-21**

The Grapevine is a publication of the City of Grapevine. Questions regarding this issue should be directed to Jennifer Hibbs, Assistant City Manager, at (817) 410-3104 or jhibbs@ci.grapevine.tx.us. Special thanks to other contributors of articles and information: Linda Huff, City Secretary's Office; Russell Pulley, Golf; Nicole Alley, Convention and Visitors Bureau; Mona Pimentel, Parks and Recreation; Bruce Bumbalough, Library; Nathan Loftice and Frank White, Public Works.



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